Accordingly, the matter has been referred to the Department of Legal Affairs.

Vacancies of Special Directors and Joint Directors in CBI

2453. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of posts of Special Directors and Joint Directors in CBI are lying vacant for the last many months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when these posts would be filled up; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to improve functioning of the premier investigating agency?

THE MINSITER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) Two posts of Special Directors / Additional Directors and Seven posts of Joint Directors are lying vacant as on 5.8.2002. A meeting of the CBI Selection Board has been held on 26.7.2002 for taking IPS officers on deputaion whereas for filling the promotion posts of Joint Directors, meeting of the Departmental Promotion Committee has been held on 2.8.2002.

(d) In order to improve the efficiency of the CBI and strengthening its-in-house-expertise 47 new posts have been sanctioned by the Government on 24.04.02 for the Special Crimes and Economic Offences Division. Besides, 26 Special Courts and 7 Magistrate level Courts have been sanctioned exclusively for CBI cases. A further 12 Special Judge Courts and 6 Magistrate level Courts have been identified.

Recommendations regarding additional pension

2454. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fifth Central Pay Commission has recommended for grant of additional pension at the rate of 0.5 per cent for each completed

six-months period of service in excess of 33 years subject to a limit of 35 years;

(b) if so, whether the recommendation was accepted;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether it is now proposed to accept and implement the same in order to give some relief to the pensioners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The Fifth CPC recommended additional pension at the rate of 0.5 per cent of emoluments for each completed six monthly period of service or one per cent of emoluments for each year of service in excess of 33 years. No upper limit was prescribed by the Commission.

(b) to (d) The recommendations was examined in the Government and in view of the administrative, legal and financial difficulties, it was not accepted. Implementation of the other major recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission has considerably enhanced the amount of pension in general.

Automatic merger of dearness relief with pension

2455. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fifth Central Pay Commission had recommended an automatic merger of Dearness Relief with pension in the case of pensioners simultaneously whenever Dearness Allowance is merged with pay in the case of serving employees;

(b) whether the decision has been accepted and implemented by Government;

(c) if not, the reasons for the discriminatory treatment to the serving and the retired employees; and

(d) whether Government would have a second look into the matter, and if not, the reasons therefor?